

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to correct various informalities noted by the Examiner and overcome the 35 USC 112 rejections.

The word "aperture" has been changed to --skirt portion aperture—in the claims.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being unpatentable over Akau et al. This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed. Applicant also believes claim 1 patentably defines over this reference under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Akou et al. does not disclose a structure where the belt portion of the skirt portion is deliberately provided with wrinkles by the press molding.

Claims 1, 2 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (a) as being anticipated by Okamoto et al. This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed. The published date of Okamoto et al. (Jpn. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Publication No. 2002-216655) was August 2, 2002, which was later than February 26, 2002, the filing date of our application. Therefore, Okamoto et al. does not constitute a prior art of the present application.

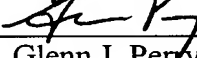
Claims 1, 3 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Saito et al (Jpn. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Publication 9-35657). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed. The reference describes a structure where a round or slit-shaped stress absorbing holes 18 are formed in the skirt portion. By forming the stress absorbing holes, the shrinkage stress that occurs in the skirt portion of the shadow mask is absorbed, the spring back that leaves in the skirt portion is reduced, and consequently the deformation of the main surface of the mask is prevented. However, Saito et al. does not disclose or suggest a

structure where the belt portion of the skirt portion is deliberately provided with wrinkles by the press molding as in the present invention, thus is completely different from our claimed inventions.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by Sakamoto et al. (US Patent No. 6,501,214). This ground of rejection is also respectfully traversed. The same argument set forth above, with respect to Saito et al. applies to Sakamoto et al.

All outstanding matters having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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